

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of the Claims:**

Claim 1. (Currently Amended)      A sealing arrangement consisting essentially of a sealing ring for sealing two components moving relative to each other, particularly as a rotary shaft seal or piston ring, with including a radially internal or external sealing surface that can be brought into contact with at least one of the said components to form a seal against a fluid medium, where, to the one side of the sealing surface, the sealing ring displays a pressurizing surface to be pressurized by the fluid medium and, on the opposite side, a supporting surface to the side of the sealing surface for positioning against a groove flank of a the component accommodating the sealing ring,

~~characterized in that the pressurizing surface or the supporting surface, or the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface, are inclined relative to the sealing surface and enclose an angle of less than 90° towards it,~~

wherein one of the two components displays a groove without an undercut to receive the sealing ring, where the groove displays a supporting flank opposite the supporting surface of the sealing ring, and a pressure-side flank opposite the pressurizing surface of the sealing ring, where the sealing surface of the sealing ring projects from the receiving component in the radial direction,

wherein the pressure-side flank and the supporting flank of the groove are inclined relative to the surface of the sealing ring, each enclosing an angle of less than 90° towards said surface,

wherein a gap is provided, at least between the pressurizing surface of the sealing ring and the pressure-side flank, into which a fluid medium to be provided on the pressure side of the sealing ring can flow, pressing the sealing ring in sealing fashion against the supporting flank of the groove and against one of said two components, and, by application of pressure by the fluid medium, the supporting surface of the sealing ring can be brought into flat contact with the supporting flank of the groove, at least on the side facing the sealing surface

wherein the sealing ring is divided almost completely or throughout in the radial direction at one point on its circumference, forming a weaker area,

wherein the entire sealing surface is in sealing contact with one of said two components to form a seal when the sealing ring is pressurized

~~and in that the sealing ring is capable of radial compression towards a radially internal sealing surface, or of expansion towards a radially external sealing surface.~~

Claim 2. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement ~~ring~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that the pressurizing surface or the supporting surface, or the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface, each form a lateral surface of a truncated cone.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement ~~ring~~ according to Claim 2, characterized in that the areas of the lateral surface of a truncated cone of the pressurizing surface or the supporting surface, or of the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface, each enclose an angle of 30° to 60° with the sealing surface towards said sealing surface.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement ~~ring~~ according to Claim 2, characterized in that the area of the pressurizing surface or the supporting surface, or of the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface, with the form of a truncated cone follows on laterally, at least almost directly, from the sealing surface.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement ~~ring~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that a surface is located between the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface, opposite to the sealing surface, which is a lateral surface of a truncated cone, or a surface of a cylinder, or a concavely arched surface forming a transitional area.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement ~~ring~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that the radial thickness of the sealing ring is less than/equal to the extension of the sealing surface in the axial direction of the sealing ring.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement ~~ring~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that the pressurizing surface or the supporting surface, or the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface, is or are profiled.

Claim 8. (Canceled)

Claim 9. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement ~~ring~~ according to Claim 8 1 , characterized in that the weaker area is designed as a complete division of the sealing ring, forming two opposite sealing ring ends, in that at least one, integrally molded area extending in the circumferential direction of the sealing ring is provided on each of the sealing ring ends, and in that the areas associated with different sealing ring ends are located one behind the other in the axial direction of the sealing ring, forming a labyrinth seal, and are in contact with each other, at least in operating condition of the sealing ring.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement ~~ring~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that the sealing ring consists of a plastic with an elongation at break at room temperature of  $\leq 50\%$ .

Claim 11. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement ~~ring~~ according to Claim 1, characterized in that the sealing surface is designed as the surface of a cylinder.

Claims 12-13. (Canceled)

Claim 14. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim ~~43~~ 1, characterized in that the gap extends at least partially over the side of the sealing ring opposite the sealing surface of the sealing ring, which forms a transitional area between the supporting surface and the pressurizing surface ~~(8)~~.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim ~~1~~ 43, characterized in that the sealing ring projects from the groove ~~(5)~~ in the component in the radial direction by less than one-third of its radial thickness.

Claim 16. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim ~~1~~ 43, characterized in that the supporting flank of the groove can be brought into full contact with the supporting surface of the sealing ring by pressurizing the fluid medium.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim ~~1~~ 43, characterized in that the gap displays an essentially constant gap width over its radial extension.

Claim 18. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim ~~1~~ 43, characterized in that the groove is of rounded design in the area of the groove base, or in at least one transitional area to an adjacent groove flank.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1 43, characterized in that a first component is provided, which displays the sealing ring accommodated in a circumferential groove, and in that a second component is provided, which is capable of motion relative to the first component and with which the sealing surface of the sealing ring can be brought into contact in sealing fashion during motion of the components relative to each other, and in that the sealing ring is located in the groove without pretension in relation to the component to be sealed.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1 43, characterized in that the component accommodating the sealing ring in a groove is a shaft, and in that a shaft guide is provided, with which the sealing surface of the sealing ring can be brought into contact in sealing fashion by application of the pressure of the fluid medium during rotary motion of the shaft and the shaft guide relative to each other, in that the shaft guide is made of a light metal, and in that the supporting surface of the sealing ring is inclined to the longitudinal axis of the sealing ring such that, owing to the pressure force of the fluid medium on the sealing ring, the sealing ring is located in non-rotating fashion relative to the shaft guide.

Claim 21. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1 43, characterized in that the component accommodating the sealing ring is a shaft guide, and in that a shaft capable of rotation relative to it is provided, with which the sealing surface of the sealing ring can be brought into contact in sealing fashion.

Claim 22. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1 43, characterized in that the shaft and the shaft guide are components of an automatic transmission, and in that the sealing ring is provided for sealing at least one oil passage.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim 1 43, characterized in that the sealing ring is located in a groove of a piston of a piston engine, and in that the sealing ring provides a seal against a cylinder guiding the piston.

Claim 24. (Currently Amended)      The sealing arrangement according to Claim 23, characterized in that the piston is a piston of a combustion engine, or of a steam engine, or of a reciprocating pump.

Claim 25. (New)    A sealing arrangement with a sealing ring for sealing two components moving relative to each other, with a radially internal or external sealing surface that can be brought into contact with one of the components to form a seal against a fluid medium, where, to the side of the sealing surface, the sealing ring displays a pressurizing surface to be pressurized by the fluid medium and, on the opposite side, a supporting surface to the side of the sealing surface for positioning against a groove flank of a component accommodating the sealing ring, and a transitional area connecting the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface opposite to the sealing surface, wherein the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface are inclined relative to the sealing surface and enclosed an angle of about 30° to 60° towards it,

wherein the sealing ring is divided almost completely or throughout in the radial direction at one point on its circumference, forming a weaker area, to be capable of radial compression towards a radially internal sealing surface, or of expansion toward a radially external sealing surface,

wherein one of the two components displays a groove without undercut to accommodate the sealing ring, where the groove displays a supporting flank opposite the supporting surface of the sealing ring, and a pressure-side flank opposite the pressurizing surface of the sealing ring, where the sealing surface of the sealing ring projects from the receiving component in the radial direction,

wherein the pressure-side flank and the supporting flank of the groove are inclined relative to the sealing surface of the sealing ring, each enclosing an angle of about 30° to 60° towards it,

wherein a gap is provided, at least between the pressurizing surface of the sealing ring and the pressure-side flank, into which a fluid medium to be provided on the pressure side of the sealing ring can flow, pressing the sealing ring in sealing fashion against the supporting flank of the groove and against a component to be sealed that corresponds to a first component, and, by application of pressure by the fluid medium, the supporting surface of the sealing ring can be brought into flat contact with the supporting flank of the groove, at least on the side facing the sealing surface, and

wherein the transitional area of the sealing ring is arranged at the base of the groove.



Claim 26.(New)      A sealing arrangement with a sealing ring for sealing two components moving relative to each other, with a radially internal or external sealing surface that can be brought into contact with one of the components to form a seal against a fluid medium, where, to the side of the sealing surface, the sealing ring displays a pressurizing surface to be pressurized by the fluid medium and, on the opposite side, a supporting surface to the side of the sealing surface for positioning against a groove flank of a component accommodating the sealing ring, and a transitional area connecting the pressurized surface and the supporting surface opposite to the sealing surface,

wherein the pressurizing surface and the supporting surface are inclined relative to the sealing surface and enclose an angle of less than  $90^\circ$  towards it,

wherein the sealing ring is divided almost completely or throughout in the radial direction at one point on its circumference, forming a weaker area to be capable of radial compression towards a radially external sealing surface,

wherein one of the two components displays a groove without undercut to accommodate the sealing ring, where the groove displays a supporting flank opposite the supporting surface of the sealing ring, and a pressure-side flank opposite the pressurizing surface of the sealing ring, where the sealing surface of the sealing ring projects from the receiving component in the radial direction,

wherein the pressure-side flank and the supporting flank of the groove are inclined relative to the sealing surface of the sealing ring, each enclosing an angle of less than  $90^\circ$  towards it,

wherein a gap is provided at least between the pressurizing surface of the sealing ring and the pressure-side flank, into which a fluid medium to be provided on the

pressure side of the sealing ring can flow, pressing the sealing ring in sealing fashion against the supporting flank of the groove and against a component to be sealed that corresponds to the first component, and, by application of pressure by the fluid medium, the supporting surface of the sealing ring can be brought into flat contact with the supporting flank of the groove, at least on the side facing the sealing surface,

wherein the groove is of concave rounded design in the central area of the groove base and in both transitional areas to both adjacent groove flanks, with a continuous transition of the concave groove base to the groove flanks, and

wherein the transitional area of the sealing ring is arranged at the base of the groove.